

THE
GOSPEL VISITANT.

BEING PRINCIPALLY
ORIGINAL TRACTS ON MORAL AND RELIGIOUS
SUBJECTS;

IN WHICH AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE
GOSPEL OF GOD OUR SAVIOUR
IS ATTEMPTED BY ARGUMENTS DRAWN FROM
SCRIPTURE AND REASON.

THE WHOLE DIRECTED TO THE PROMOTION OF PIETY AND
MORALITY.

BY THE GLOUCESTER CONFERENCE.

VOL. I.

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TO AGENTS AND PATRONS.

Having completed the first volume of the *Gospel Visitant*, the Publishers embrace this opportunity to present their sincere respects and grateful acknowledgements to their many *Agents* and *Patrons*, who have much encouraged this work by giving them their assistance and liberal support.

The increasing number of *Subscribers* (notwithstanding the discontinuance of some) is in evidence that the work has hitherto met with public approbation. There are yet many things, which we conceive to be of great importance to the christian world, and especially to the humble believer in the doctrine of *universal grace*, which we wish to lay before the public, and which we conceive may be done as well, or better, in this way, than in any other. The encouragement hitherto given to this work, has equalled, if not exceeded, our most sanguine expectations ; and we hope, in addition to our other labors, still to be useful in this way. This publication, in many parts of the country, may supply, in some measure, the lack of preaching ; for perhaps it is as true now, comparatively, as it ever was, that, "the harvest is great, but *faithful laborers are few.*" We hear of new societies, springing up in the faith, in various parts ; and it is presumed that there never was a greater call for preachers, who dare to face an unbelieving world and proclaim the unbounded grace of God to the chief of sinners, than at this time. We would therefore suggest to our many societies, and individuals in the faith, who are not blest with the privilege of hearing that gospel which hath been declared by a voice from heaven to be *good tidings of great joy unto all people* regularly preached among them, the propriety of meeting together on the first day of the week, at some convenient place, to read the holy scriptures, which are able to make every one wise unto salvation, to exercise such gifts as may be present, in singing, praying, exhortation, or expounding the word ; and, for the want of public gifts, to read the *Gospel Visitant*, and such other books as may tend to instruction and edification. Such meetings, with the blessing of God, may be rendered very useful, and perhaps be the means of bringing forward many promising youth to labor in the vineyard of the great HUSBANDMAN, whose *vine* is **CHRIST**, and the *branches*, **ALL MANKIND.**